GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3349
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
REVIEW OF FUNCTIONING OF AICTE AND UGC
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a high powered committee to review the functioning of AICTE and UGC in the country; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith the terms of reference of the said committee?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): A Review Committee has been constituted by Government under the Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal, former Chairman, University Grants Commission to review the functioning of the University Grants Commission and the All India Council for Technical Education. The terms of reference of the Committee are :-

(i) To review the functioning of the UGC/AICTE and to critically assess the role of the UGC/AICTE and their preparedness to provide institutional leadership to the emerging demands of access, equity, relevance and quality of higher education/technical education and the university system.

(ii) To review the provisions of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 and the All India Council for Technical Education Act 1987 and various suggestions for amendments to the said Acts by earlier Committees such as the Prof. Amreek Singh Committee.

(iii) The role of the UGC in coordinating standards of higher education vis-Ã -vis the functional role of other statutory bodies such as AICTE, MCI, DCI, NCI, NCTE, DEC, etc.

(iv) An assessment of the requirements of autonomy of the UGC vis-Ã -vis the Central Government and that of the university system vis-Ã -vis the UGC.

(v) The role of the UGC/AICTE in determining and enforcing standards of higher education/ technical education in State Universities and the possibility of introducing a system of incentives and disincentives so that national standards of higher education/technical education are not compromised or diluted.

(vi) Recommendations in regard to an effective and efficient mechanism for flow of resources from the UGC to the universities for their timely utilization including a mechanism of feedback thereto.

(vii) The requirement of transparency and efficiency in the functioning of the UGC/AICTE.

(viii) The role of the UGC vis-Ã -vis declaration of institutions to be deemed universities and recommendations for streamlining the process adopted by the UGC.

(ix) Recommendations about the need to change the eligibility criteria for becoming eligible to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act 1956.

(x) Any other issue arising out of or relating to the above terms of reference and, the functioning of the UGC/AICTE which the Government or the Committee on its own, may desire o look into.

The University Grants Commission shall provide all secretarial assistance and logistics support to the Chairman and Members of the Committee. The Committee is required to submit its report within a period of one year.